



CAPITAL PROGRAM

Pace Means Progress

Fall Update
October 2023





Thank you all,

I am thrilled to share the following stories about how Pace's Capital Program — powered by a **\$284 million investment through *Rebuild Illinois*, the largest capital funding allocation in our nearly 40-year history — is already benefiting riders throughout Northeastern Illinois.**

Within this update, you'll learn about our most current projects, hear from community partners about the positive impacts resulting from our work together, and see how the historic dollars we've received are being spent.

Your commitment to securing funding for this program and its related projects enables Pace to realize its goal of accessible, safe, efficient, equitable, and sustainable transit options that support economic growth in the communities we serve.

We at Pace are grateful for State of Illinois legislators, county leadership, and *Rebuild Illinois*; community members and their leaders; and partners who are supporting our efforts to modernize our infrastructure and expand our services as ridership continues to rebound and grow. We look forward to your continued support in advancing our long-term strategic vision and zero-emission fleet plans, and to sharing more success stories with you in 2023 and beyond.



Sincerely,

Melinda J Metzger

Melinda J. Metzger, Executive Director

THE CAPITAL PROGRAM

Pace's Capital Program is a set of projects designed to meet the needs of the people of Northeastern Illinois now and into the future by expanding service, improving connections, reducing our carbon footprint, and strengthening our infrastructure and technology.

The Capital Program also supports the goals of Driving Innovation, Pace's long-term strategic vision plan that responds to dramatic changes taking place throughout the transportation industry, including the goal of converting our entire bus fleet to zero emissions by 2040.

Pace continues collaborating and coordinating with CTA, Metra, and RTA to ensure efficient, effective, and equitable use of Capital Program funds.

HIGHLIGHTS

1

Farebox System Upgrade

SYSTEMWIDE

Replacing outdated and obsolete equipment to enhance fare collection

2

ADA Paratransit Technology & ADA Transfer Centers

SYSTEMWIDE

Improving safety, accessibility, and technology for passengers with disabilities

3

Harvey Transportation Center

CITY OF HARVEY, METRA

Relocating and modernizing our busiest transit hub, expanding ADA Paratransit access

4

Heritage Plainfield Garage

VILLAGE OF PLAINFIELD *Complete*

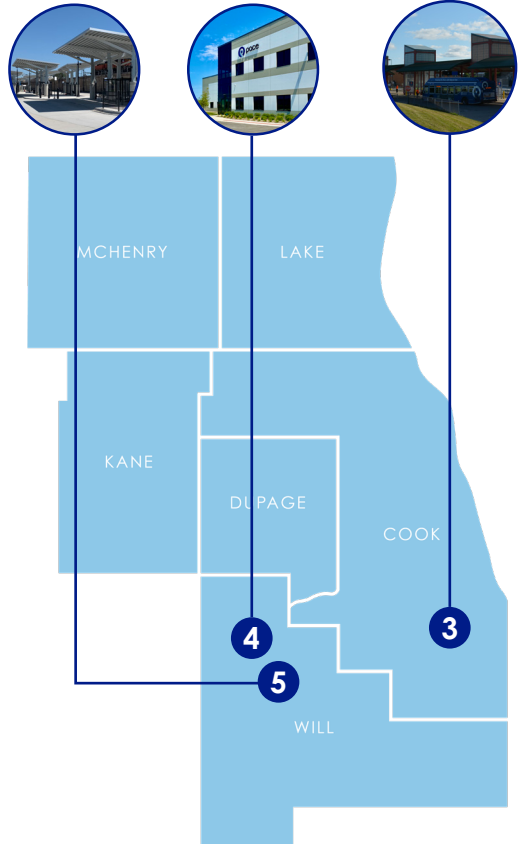
Constructing our first new bus garage in 30 years, installing electric bus charger technology, supporting I-55 Bus-on-Shoulder infrastructure

5

Joliet Gateway Center

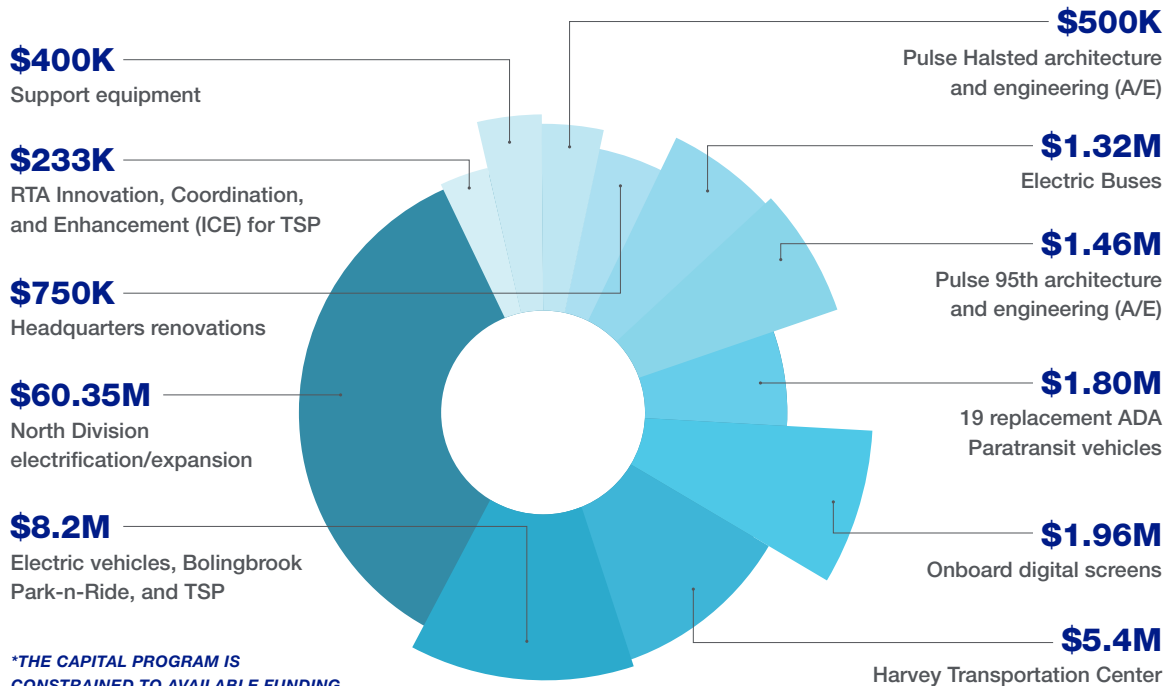
CITY OF JOLIET *Complete*


Improving access, amenities, and transfers between Pace, Metra, and Amtrak



FUNDING PROGRESS

The 2023 Suburban Capital Program budget is **\$82.38M**, most of which supports projects necessary to bring the Pace system toward a state of good repair. *





“Investing in Pace ensures we are building stronger connections between our residents, communities, and businesses.”

— LORRI NEWSON

Pace Chief Financial & Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer



IMPACTS

Pace values *Accessibility, Safety, Efficiency, Equity,* and *Environmental Responsibility*, and our partnerships with leaders and communities throughout Northeastern Illinois help bring those values to life. These relationships are essential to our work and our shared future.

We're excited to feature the following individuals as they speak about our most recent collaborative efforts and celebrate the positive impact that the Capital Program is having on the region's transit network as we work together to improve service for each and every employee and rider.



BRIDGET BROWN

Pace partner and advocate for people with disabilities

“ I am proud to be part of this team that is making a difference in getting people with disabilities where they want to go.”

ADA Technology & ADA Paratransit Transfer Centers

“As an advocate for inclusion of all people with disabilities, Pace’s improvements will include more riders,” says Bridget Brown about Pace’s work to expand systemwide ADA technology and enhance service at the Northwest Transportation Center in Schaumburg and the ADA Transfer Facility in Calumet City.

A longtime rider, Brown is vice president of the National Association for Down Syndrome. She has worked with Pace for more than a decade, helping people with disabilities learn how to use public transportation so they can travel safely and independently. Pace will continue to leverage technology and introduce new mobility options to improve the customer experience and create even more access to transportation for all.

The projects are part of Pace’s commitment to improving safety and equity for all riders throughout Northeastern Illinois.



Harvey Transportation Center Improvements

Harvey Mayor Christopher Clark believes the City's most recent partnership with Pace and Metra reflects solid relationships and a mutually strong commitment to the communities they serve.

Clark notes the relocation and expansion of Pace's busiest rider hub will also support the wider south suburban region.

The new facility will be located adjacent to the Metra station for improved intermodal connections, making travel more efficient and accessible for riders. This project also allows for the integration of future Pulse Halsted Line service and I-294 Bus-on-Shoulder service with connections to O'Hare Airport.

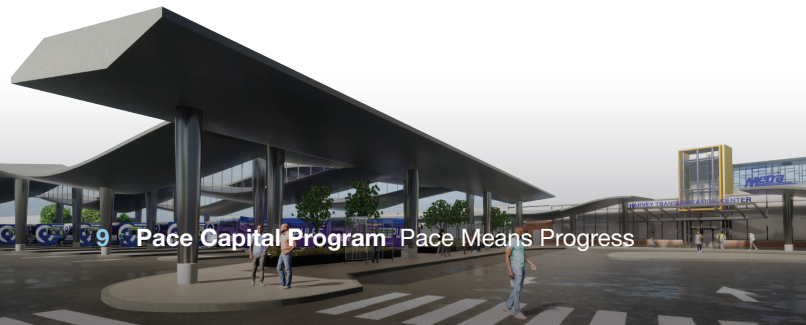
The project advances Pace's goals of improving equity and access for all riders throughout Northeastern Illinois.



CHRISTOPHER CLARK

Harvey Mayor

“ We see how all the parties can work together to the benefit of the people we serve, and it's exciting.”





MARGARET MURRY

*Heritage Plainfield Garage
Division Manager*

**“ Rebuild
Illinois funding has
enabled Pace to
build capacity that
effectively responds
to the region's
growth, diversity,
and evolving
rider needs.”**

Heritage Plainfield Garage Development

“What’s happening here is historic,” says Margaret Murry, Division Manager, about Pace’s first new fixed route bus garage in 30 years and the electric bus technology planned for the site. Murry says the improvements bring Pace closer to its long-term vision for 21st century transit.

In addition to technology and amenities, the expanded facility also supports the popular and successful I-55 Bus-on-Shoulder program, a service that launched in 2011 and grew more than 600% in its first seven years.

The project advances Pace’s environmentally-focused goal of transitioning its bus fleet to zero emissions vehicles by 2040.



Joliet Gateway Center Connections

Pace riders are benefiting from centralized boarding locations and improved connections to Metra and Amtrak services, thanks to the collaborative efforts of Pace and leaders from the City of Joliet and Will County.

“The Center’s new amenities and technology upgrades provide a comfortable, safe environment,” says Will County Chief Executive Officer Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant.

The project advances Pace’s goals of equity and accessibility for all.



JENNIFER BERTINO-TARRANT

Will County Chief Executive Officer

“ We’re grateful for funding that has enabled Pace to partner with local leaders and realize our shared goal of responsive, state-of-the-art service for all our communities.”

BY THE NUMBERS

January 2023 - June 2023 compared to January 2022 - June 2022



Increase in DBE
spending



New contracts
awarded to DBEs

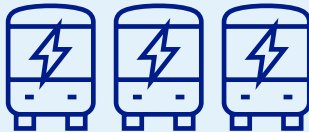


Certified DBE firms

*(Services include: insurance; concrete and
demo; electrical; administrative; consulting;
security; sewer; power and communication
line construction; engineering services;
drafting; environmental consulting)*



Invested in 18 DBE prime companies/firms and 25 DBE
subcontractors/subconsultants



Completed Project Zero fleet
and facility transition plans



New electronic
bus tracker signs

Funding That Matters

RAISE funding for Harvey
Transportation Center

\$20M

Rebuild Illinois funding
for ADA Paratransit

\$20M

Rebuild Illinois funding for I-55
Bus-on-Shoulder infrastructure

\$59M

In addition to *Rebuild Illinois*, significant funding from several sources has enabled Pace to support its commitment to accessibility, inclusion, and innovation throughout 2023.

As a result:

- Riders will benefit from enhanced ADA Paratransit and Bus-on-Shoulder service
- Projects made possible by this funding will create construction jobs throughout the region
- Upgraded vehicles, facilities, and communications will continue advancing Pace's 2040 environmental goals
- Pace will be able to continue innovating service with mobility options like Pulse, Pace Connect, VanGo, and the soon-to-launch Rideshare Access Program (RAP)



For ongoing updates about these projects and the Capital Program, go to pacebus.com/projects-studies, and subscribe for email alerts.



“ This funding is helping us provide modernized facilities and more accessible service to better serve our growing ridership.”

— RICK KWASNESKI
Pace Chairman



Pace is an award-winning transit agency—most recently as recipient of the 2023 American Public Transportation Association’s **Bus Safety Gold Award** and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning **Regional Resilience Award** in recognition of our Project Zero initiative.

Project Zero represents Pace’s commitment to sustainability and sets the goal of operating a zero-emissions fleet by 2040.



Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning



[PaceBus.com](https://www.pacebus.com)